Rec'd PCT/PTO Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 004900-148

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Evelyne PRAT et al

Application No.: Unassigned (Corresponds to PCT/FR95/00901)

Filed: January 7, 1997

For: CONCENTRATED SUSPENSION PRECIPITATION SILICA, METHODS OF PREPARATION

AND UTILISATIONS OF SAID SUSPENSION

Group Art Unit:

Unassigned Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 1 - 21.

Please add the following new claims 22 - 46 as follows:

An aqueous suspension of precipitated silica, which solids content is between 10 and 40% by weight, which viscosity is lower than 4×10^{-3} Ra.s at a shear rate of 50 s⁻¹ and wherein the amount of silica present in the supernatant obtained after centrifuging said suspension at 7500